



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,267	03/29/2001	Kazutoyo Maehiro	6514-8	4470

7055 7590 12/22/2005

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.
1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE
RESTON, VA 20191

EXAMINER

ZHONG, CHAD

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2152

DATE MAILED: 12/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/821,267	MAEHIRO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chad Zhong	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 7-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 2 and 6 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5 and 7-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

OFFICE ACTION

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 10/27/2005 has been entered.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 7-18 are presented for examination; Claims 2, 6 are cancelled; Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 13-18 are currently amended.

2. It is noted that although the present application does contain line numbers in specification and claims, the line numbers in the claims do not correspond to the preferred format. The preferred format is to number each line of every claim, with each claim beginning with line 1. For ease of reference by both the Examiner and Applicant all future correspondence should include the recommended line numbering.

3. Applicant is required to update the status (pending, allowed, etc.) of all parent priority applications in the first line of the specification. The status of all citations of US filed applications in the specification should also be updated where appropriate.

Objections

4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

pg 7, line 3, it is not clear whether the 2nd should be changed to "1st", i.e. is the device trying to send to itself or to another entity? Appropriate correction/explanation is required.

Claims 1, 5, 8-18 are objected to because of the following informalities:

"2nd" should be changed to "second", examiner will interpret "2nd" as "second". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10, 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter AAPA), in view of Schirris, US 2002/0193986.

7. As per claim 1, AAPA teaches an information processing apparatus capable of sending a message about a schedule to a second information processing apparatus through a communications network, wherein the second information processing apparatus is capable of analyzing the message being received and extracting words or phrases for entering into the schedule managed by a scheduler (AAPA, pg 1-2):

However, AAPA does not explicitly teach:

a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers, while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets;

a word or phrase selector that selects at least one word or phrase from the words or phrases stored in the first storage device;

an extractor that extracts a specific identifier corresponding to the selected word or phrase from the first data sets; and

a transmitter that transmits the extracted identifier as the message to the 2nd information processing

Art Unit: 2152

apparatus;

wherein the identifier transmitted from the information processing apparatus is converted to a specific word or phrase on the basis of the second data sets stored in the second storage device;

wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first natural language, while the words or phrases stored in the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language.

In a similar system, Schirris teaches:

a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers (Schirris, [0010]; [0056], where the search terms are predefined, and each term are associated with a predetermined UID value), while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets (Schirris, Fig. 2A, item 114 and 116, wherein the corresponding UID values are linked to each other for purpose of translation of similar terms identified by UID values; [0049], [0051], [0053], wherein the UID values are searched and words with similar meanings are returned in response to a query);

a word or phrase selector that selects at least one word or phrase from the words or phrases stored in the first storage device (Schirris, [0056], query selected from predefined list);

an extractor that extracts a specific identifier corresponding to the selected word or phrase from the first data sets (Schirris, [0051], UID values are determined using parse); and

a transmitter that transmits the extracted identifier as the message to the second information processing apparatus (Schirris, [0051-0053], wherein the UID values are sent to database and stored relevant results are returned), wherein the identifier transmitted from the information processing apparatus is converted to a specific word or phrase on the basis of the second data sets stored in the second storage device (Schirris, [0049], [0051-0053], wherein the original term is searched and

Art Unit: 2152

synonymous UID values in other languages are retrieved from the database),

wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first natural language, while the words or phrases stored in the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language (Schirris, Fig 2A, where the system supports multiple languages; [0040], databases can be part of a larger distributed system).

It would have been obvious to the person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate Schirris teaching with of AAPA because the combination would improve the capabilities of AAPA's system, by allowing for support of multiple languages (Schirris, [0044-0045]).

8. As per claim 3, AAPA – Schirris disclose the invention substantially as rejected in claim 1 above, including:

wherein the words or phrases of the first and the second storage devices are grouped into different categories and then stored in the first and the second storage devices, respectively (Schirris, [0040]; Fig 2A, where the languages and UIDs are grouped together in separate databases).

10. As per claim 4, AAPA – Schirris disclose the invention substantially as rejected in claim 1 above, including:

wherein the words or phrases of the first and the second storage devices are grouped into different categories and then stored in the first and the second storage devices, respectively (Schirris, [0040]; Fig 2A, where the languages and UIDs are grouped together in separate databases).

11. As per claim 5, AAPA teaches an information processing apparatus capable of receiving a message about a schedule from a second information processing apparatus through a communications network, analyzing the message being received, and extracting words or phrases for entering into the schedule managed by a scheduler, comprising (AAPA, pg 1-2, where the words or phrases are extracted manually or automatically to be entered into a schedule):

Art Unit: 2152

an entry system that enters the words or phrases converted by a converter into the schedule (AAPA, pg 2, lines 10-20, where the original message is converted into a modified message and the modified message is being put automatically into the schedule).

AAPA does not explicitly teach:

a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers, while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets;

a converter that converts the message in the form of the identifiers transmitted from the second information processing apparatus to the words or phrases on the basis of the first data sets stored in the first storage device; and

wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first natural language, while the words or phrases stored in the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language.

However, Schirris teaches:

a first storage device that stores a group of first data sets in which the words or phrases are matched to respective identifiers (Schirris, [0010]; [0056], where the search terms are predefined, and each term are associated with a predetermined UID value), while a second storage device in the second information processing apparatus stores a group of second data sets corresponding to words or phrases having the same meanings as the words or phrases corresponding to the respective identifiers of the first data sets (Schirris, [0049], [0051], [0053], wherein the UID values are searched and words with similar meanings are returned in response to a query);

a converter that converts the message in the form of the identifiers transmitted from the second information processing apparatus to the words or phrases on the basis of the first data sets stored in the

Art Unit: 2152

first storage device (Schirris, [0049], [0051-0053], wherein the original term is searched and synonymous UID values in other languages are retrieved from the database); and

wherein the words or phrases stored in the first storage device are represented by a first natural language, while the words or phrases stored in the second storage device are represented by a second natural language that is different from the first natural language (Fig 2A, where the system supports multiple languages; [0040], databases can be part of a larger distributed system).

It would have been obvious to the person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate Schirris teaching with of AAPA because the combination would improve the capabilities of AAPA's system, by allowing for support of multiple languages (Schirris, [0044-0045]).

13. As per claim 7, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 3 above.

14. As per claim 10, claim 10 is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 3 above.

15. As per claims 13-18, claims 13-18 are rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 1 above.

16. Claims 8, 9, 11, 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter AAPA), in view of Schirris, US 2002/0193986, as applied in claim 5 above, in view of what was well known in the art.

17. As per claim 8, AAPA – Schirris disclose the invention substantially as rejected in claim 7 above, but does not explicitly say:

a returning system that returns the message received from the second information processing apparatus the second information processing apparatus when the words or phrases are entered into the scheduler by the entry system. However, this is equivalent of a synchronization message between the first and second information processing systems.

Art Unit: 2152

Official Notice is taken (see MPEP 2144.03) synchronization message between two parties is well known and routinely used for synchronizing data / schedules between two parties over a network.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include synchronization capabilities with AAPA – Schirris because it would provide for improved data management/integrity, by allowing two sides to have similar schedules after the synchronization.

18. As per claim 9, AAPA – Schirris disclose the invention substantially as rejected in claim 5 above, but does not explicitly teach:

a returning system that returns the message received from the second information processing apparatus the second information processing apparatus when the words or phrases are entered into the scheduler by the entry system. However, this is equivalent of a synchronization message between the first and second information processing systems.

Official Notice is taken (see MPEP 2144.03) synchronization message between two parties is well known and routinely used for synchronizing data / schedules between two parties over a network.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include synchronization capabilities with AAPA – Schirris because it would provide for improved data management/integrity, by allowing two sides to have similar schedules after the synchronization.

19. As per claims 11, AAPA – Schirris disclose the invention substantially as rejected in claim 10 above, but does not explicitly teach:

a returning system that returns the message received from the second information processing apparatus the second information processing apparatus when the words or phrases are entered into the scheduler by the entry system. However, this is equivalent of a synchronization message between the first and second information processing systems.

Official Notice is taken (see MPEP 2144.03) synchronization message between two parties is

Art Unit: 2152

well known and routinely used for synchronizing data / schedules between two parties over a network.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to include synchronization capabilities with AAPA – Schirris because it would provide for improved data management/integrity, by allowing two sides to have similar schedules after the synchronization.

20. As per claim 12, claims 12 is rejected for the same reasons as rejection to claim 11 above.

Conclusion

21. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents and publications are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to “Information Processing System, Method For Message Communications Recording Medium And Computer Program”.

- | | | |
|------|------------|------------------|
| i. | US 6615258 | Barry et al. |
| ii. | US 6201536 | Hendricks et al. |
| iii. | US 5592656 | Canzone |

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chad Zhong whose telephone number is (571)272-3946. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:15 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, JAROENCHONWANIT, BUNJOB can be reached on (571)272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

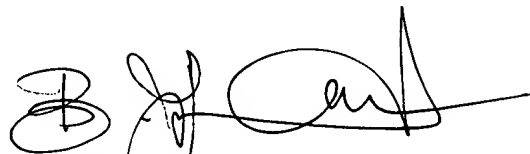
Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available

Art Unit: 2152

through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CZ

December 15, 2005



BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
PRIMARY EXAMINER